

To: Dr. William Stokes  
re.: Report of the International Workshop on In Vitro Methods for  
Assessing Acute Systemic Toxicity.

I understand that the LD50 is being phased out internationally, and that NIEHS has addressed the feasibility of replacing animal tests completely with in-vitro cell culture tests. I encourage and applaud the effort to phase out unnecessary animal testing, and ask you to completely replace LD50 testing with non-animal in-vitro testing.

The world has come a long way since the 1960's when, as a young pharmacy student, I watched laboratory animals routinely being euthanized following lab "experiments" in which no new knowledge was gained. The measure of a civilization can be gauged by how innocent beings...human or animal...are treated by society as a whole.

Technology has dramatically improved in the past 40 years. Please replace the LD50 with in-vitro testing. Thank you.

Rebecca H. Deschamps, RPh